

Message Text

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46

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /037 W

----- 007659

R 031505Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7577

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 0892

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EINV, BR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED OPIC FEASIBILITY STUDY

REF: STATE 6615; RIO A-137

FOLLOWING ARE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 3 REFTEL.
REPORT DEVELOPED BY CONGEN RIO.

1. CURRENT IMPORT DUTY ASSESSED ON PORTED'S PRODUCTS IS 30 PERCENT "AD VALOREM" ON CIF COST PLUS FIVE PERCENT MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS TAX (IPI). HOWEVER, CUSTOMS POLICY COUNCIL HAS POWER TO GRANT WAIVER OF IMPORT DUTIES AND RELATED CHARGES WHEN THIS TYPE OF ARTICLE IS IN SHORT SUPPLY. THERE ARE NO IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AT PRESENT NOR DO ANY APPEAR LIKELY IN FORESEABLE FUTURE.

2. PLANNED RAILROAD EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS PROVIDE READY MARKET FOR RAIL JOINTS AND OTHER RAIL ACCESSORIES. CONGEN RIO BELIEVES GOB MAY WELCOME PORTED INITIATIVE TO ALLOW FOR IMPORT SUBSTITUTION. INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH ACTING CDI SECRETARY GENERAL, GASTAO MUNIZ DO SANTOS BRUN, REVEAL RAIL JOINTS AND ANCHORS AMONG PRIORITY ITEMS FOR WHICH CDI INCENTIVES CAN BE GRANTED.

3. NOTHING FURTHER TO ADD TO RIO A-137 WHICH GAVE COMPREHENSIVE BREAKDOWN ON FIVE-YEAR RAIL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
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EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT GOB STILL APPEARS TO BE GIVING HIGH

PRIORITY TO RAILROADS. FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN RECENTLY
SIGNED US\$175 MILLION WORLD BANK LOAN FOR RAILROAD PROGRAMS.
ADDITIONALLY, GE SALE OF 198 LOCOMOTIVES TO RFFSA
AND PULLAM PROPOSAL OF 500 ORE CARS FOR MBR LINE STRIKE
CONGERIO RIO AS GOOD INDICATIONS THAT BRAZILIAN RAILROADS STILL
REQUIRE FOREIGN INPUTS. ANY EFFORTS TO PRODUCE NEEDED
EQUIPMENT IN BRASIL SHOULD BE WELCOMED SINCE RFFSA
FOLLOWS POLICY OF PURCHASING FROM LOCAL MANUFACTURERS
WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

4. CURRENT WTRDS BEING PREPARED ON BOTH DRSO IMPORTACAO E
EXPORTACAO AND GEOVIA.
CRIMMINS

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NNN

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